100 WAYS TO BE A DANCER
CAREERS IN DANCE AND RELATED FIELDS
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**Dance Performance**
- Traditional contract dance companies
- Project-base/pick-up companies
- Musical theatre performer
- National Tours, Broadway Shows
- Music videos/concert tours
- Cruise ships
- Disney & theme parks
- Night clubs (Vegas, etc.)
- Commercial/Industrial work

**Dance Choreography & Direction**
- Artistic director
- Concert dance choreographer
- Creative dance artist
- Dance video/dance for camera
- Dance Dramaturg
- Musical theatre choreographer
- Studio/competition choreographer
- Rehearsal director
- Stager/Répétiteur/Reconstructor
- Dance captain
- Ballet Master/Mistress

**Dance Education/Teaching**
- Dance studios
- Dance conservatories
- K-12 dance programs
- Magnet school programs
- Physical education programs
- Cheer/dance team coaches
- Athletic programs/gymnastics
- Community outreach programs
- Company school teacher
- Competition Adjudicator
- Convention Instructor
- Competition/Convention Judge
- Independent teacher/artist
- University dance teacher – adjunct
- Professor of dance
- Dance historian/scholar

**Dance Science and Physiology**
- Dance movement therapist
- Physical therapist for dancers
- Occupational therapist
- Massage therapist
- Athletic trainer/sports medicine
- Medicine or chiropractic
- Exercise physiology/biomechanics
- Holistic health
- Dietitian

**Dance/Arts Administration**
- Dance studio owner/director
- Owner/director fitness studio
- Corporate wellness director/admin.
- Company school director
- Program director (workshops, etc.)
- Principal, performing arts school
- Chair/Director, university program
- Company executive director
- Company general office manager
- Company booking director
- Personnel manager/HR director
- Accountant/bookkeeper
- Special events coordinator
- Development/fundraising director
- Membership/giving director
- Grant writer
- Database manager/data analyst
- Education/outreach director
- Attorney/lawyer for the arts
- Administrative assistants
- Receptionists

**Dance Production**
- Production Manager
- Stage Manager
- Technical Director
- Tour Manager
- Lighting Designer
- Projections Designer
- Master Electrician / Electrician
- Light Board Operator/Programmer
- Stage Hand
- Costume Designer/Constructor
- Wardrobe manager
- Wardrobe assistant
- Set Designer
- Master carpenter
- Sound Operator
- House Manager

**Related Movement Practices**
- Yoga Instructor
- Pilates Instructor
- Body-Mind Centering
- Feldenkrais Method
- Alexander Technique
- Barre Fitness Instructor
- Zumba Instructor
- Aerobics Instructor
- Personal Trainer
- & other somatic practices

**Media & Promotion**
- Marketing director
- Director of social media engagement
- Public relations/press manager
- Casting/talent agent
- Booking agent
- Advertising Agent
- Graphic Designer
- Photographer / Videographer
- Website developer
- Librarian/archivist
- Dance writer/critic
- Dance advocate/arts lobbyist
Who employs dancers?

Dance companies (local, regional, national)
Independent dance/performance artists
Community/Regional Theatres
Entertainment Industry
Arts organizations
Dance Studios/Conservatories
Public/Private Schools (K-12)
Dance Conventions/Competitions/Pageants

Gyms/Fitness Centers
Physical Therapy Centers
Corporate wellness programs
Children’s & Community Outreach Programs
Foundations & Granting Organizations
Federal, state, and local Arts Councils (NEA)
Colleges & Universities
Magazines/Online Publications

Transferable Skills are skills acquired from your jobs, volunteering, hobbies or life experiences that may be of interest to a future employer. A degree in the arts, and dance especially, can make you unique to an employer. Your experiences are different than those of your non-dancer peers, and may make you a better candidate for any job.

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS from a degree in dance:

- Critical thinking and application of ideas through learned experience
- Communication skills
- Creative problem solving
- Strong work ethic
- Self-motivated, ambitious
- Desire to learn & improve
- Results oriented, sees plans through
- Time management skills
- Punctual, reliable, meets deadlines

Insightful
Adaptable
Cultured
Open-minded
Able to respond to multiple perspectives
Logical
Can remember information accurately
Able to overcome adversity, work through problems and difficulties
Research skills

Collaboration and Teamwork Skills:

- Experienced collaborator
- Supportive of peers/colleagues
- Patient
- Team builder
- Follows direction well
- Works well with others
- Can anticipate needs
- Able to handle confrontation
- Diplomatic
- Outgoing
- Enthusiastic

Key Leadership Skills:

- Ability to direct others
- Experience with shared leadership
- Ability to plan and execute projects
- Can organize and motivate people
- Solve problems
- Able to demonstrate/explain
- Able to speak or present in public
- Ability to delegate
- Decisive
- Willingness to take risks
- Able to empower others
- Confident

EXPERIENCES that demonstrate your transferable skills of interest to employers:

- Dance Training/Studio Work
- Dance rehearsal/working with a choreographer
- Choreographing for peers or students
- Other dance coursework (dance science, history, pedagogy, music, etc.)
- Dance performance (as performer, choreographer, dance production/management)
- Teaching dance
- Independent study or practicum experiences including senior capstone projects
- Leadership and experiences within dance student organizations, particularly fundraising or community outreach
- Summer/Winter study and workshops (ADF, Bates, Jacob’s Pillow, etc)
- Guest artist residencies and master classes, Summer/Winter study and workshops, participation in national organizations (American College Dance Festival, etc.)